

REDMOND PARK BOARD

Minutes

July 8, 2004

Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

I. Call to order

The regular meeting of the Redmond Park Board was called to order by Chairperson Lori Snodgrass at 7:03 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Lori Snodgrass, Seth Kelsey, David Degenstein, Ann Callister, Sue Stewart, and Katherine Zak, Youth Advocate

Absent and excused: David Ladd

City staff present: Danny Hopkins, Parks and Recreation Director; Tim Cox, Parks Planning Manager; Sharon Sato, Recording Secretary

Welcome to Citizen Guests

II. Approval of Minutes

The Redmond Park Board minutes of July 1, 2004 were so approved with the following additions/changes:

Municipal Campus Master Plan – consultant was named incorrectly – corrected change should have read Kris Snider, Hewitt Architects – incorrect, Tom Atkins.

Addition of the Board's written statement/recommendation for Zak's reappointment as Youth Advocate.

Page 6, Section C – Last 2 bullets points – replace "launch house" with "two 11'x17' floating platforms". Last bullet – "2 to 3 launches" with boat covers "per" floating platform.

Motion for approval of the July 1, 2004 Redmond Park Board minutes as amended.

Motion by: Kelsey

Second by: Degenstein

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

III. Items from the Audience

Steve Isaac – Board President - Sammamish Rowing Association (SRA)

Addressed some of the questions/concerns of the audience from last months' meeting and presentation by the SRA.

- Pedestrian Traffic and boats on paths – path was measured (8' wide). Largest rowing shell carried by the crew leaves plenty of room for pedestrians to pass. Proposed pedestrian right-of-way over rowing shells – crew would move to side of path for pedestrians.
- Neighborhood Comments (Handout) – talked to about ½ dozen neighbors in the Fairweather Condominiums complex – good feedback with revised plan, SRA responded to noise concerns. Isaac asked citizens to contact him directly if they have any other concerns.
- Satellite Photo - Isaac brought a satellite photo of the park site with an overlay of where potentially and logistically facility and facility amenities would be located.
- Docks and Mooring Platforms – suggested placement of mooring platforms is just south of the swimming area – area does not have much interaction with swimmers. Existing gravel path along creek will be used for taking launches down to dock and proposed new path will hook up with existing path. Rowing/kayaking dock will come off path, same distance from the creek as the proposed location of the new dock. Resident of Fairweather suggested finger piers from dock/launch area which would make a separation from the condominiums.
- Noise – no noise to very little noise from existing path to condos. Separation from rowing facility and path down to lake will cause little or no noise.

Cox noted that City staff will continue to work with the SRA to assist them toward working up the Use Agreement and getting them through the city's pre-application and Technical Review Committee process.

Margaret Ellsworth, Redmond Resident – Submitted a memo to the Park Board, requested reconsideration of her proposal of moving the structure to the south end of the park where the rowing club was first established, when they were originally working out of Idylwood. As so noted in the memo to the Board, reason for putting the structure there would impact the park the least. She also noted that the house might be refurbished and turned into an income generating facility.

Snodgrass noted that staff had received the memo and would be able to respond to the suggestions made. She also noted that the south end of the park had some wetland issues that may cause restrictions, as well as the current Shoreline Management provisions that the City adopted. Staff will update the Board on those provisions and report back with their findings. Snodgrass thanked Ms. Ellsworth for her input.

Cox added that an environmental assessment had been done and findings included substantial wetlands in the south end of the site. A more thorough response will be given to the Board in two weeks.

Degenstein suggested that staff looking at the alternative location might be a good idea and also noted that there were two questions that needed to be addressed. 1) Should additional water activities be brought into the park? 2) where is the best location? Staff is checking into that.

Snodgrass noted that the house location at the park is placemarked/footprinted in the Opportunity Study Plan. It is not considered for income generating revenue, as it is not ADA accessible and has some other potential problems which would not be viable cost wise.

Hopkins also noted that a playground project would proceed this year.

IV. Additions to the Agenda/Handouts

- Update on Hartman Park parking – vehicles are parking on the grass and sometimes on the sidewalk. Degenstein noted that parking across the street was ample; he asked staff if they would look into the situation to curtail the current parking situation. Stewart added that patrons of the park are parking their cars in groups. Staff will look into the parking situation and report back to the Board at their next meeting.
- Shoreline Regulations – Kelsey reported that the Shoreline regulations were passed and accepted by City Council and that the new regulations were greatly improved.
- Playground Equipment at Perrigo Park – Snodgrass asked staff if they would look into putting a baby/toddler swing in the play area. There are currently

two swings in the play area, one of which might be converted into a baby/toddler swing. Cox responded that staff would revisit the original site plans for the playground, talk to Operations staff and get back to Snodgrass. Cox also noted that Phase II may include a second playground, which would allow two playgrounds, one for younger children and one for older children.

- Tennis courts at Grass Lawn Park – Zak requested/suggested that a net be put behind the tennis wall/bang wall at the park.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. City Hall Campus Park Master Plan – postponed to a future meeting date, however, Snodgrass invited public comments.

- B. Comprehensive Plan Update – Park & Recreation - Stiteler

Board members reviewed the Parks & Recreation section of the Comp. Plan. The Planning Department is currently in the process of updating the Comp. Plan policies. The community character and identity element has just been finalized. Currently policies include the transportation element, the economic revitalization section, as well as the Parks & Recreation element. The policies are scheduled for Planning Commission review by the end of July with final action the first week of August. Stiteler asked the Board to review and comment to her as soon as possible with a timeline within the next two to three weeks.

Stiteler highlighted some of the other difference in the proposed draft policies:

- Format is same – vision statement
- Highlights sections of the specific elements
- Parks, Recreation and Arts – Arts was added by the encouragement of the Arts Commission and reflection of the various meetings with Boards and Commissions
- Policies have not been changed regarding open space
- Clear in document that open space is included
- References need to reflect what is written in the PRO Plan
- Text in intro taken from Comp Plan

- Sections are similar with some re-organization – systems policies were grouped together; acquisition and facilities planning were grouped together
- Section B- Recreation, Arts and Cultural Program Policies – existing section in Comp Plan – Policy 19 has numeric items, create and provide for a balance system of recreation
- Section C – Special Features policies – existing policies taken from various places in the current element and grouped into their own section
- Policy 33 – new policy – needs to be modified – regarding use of Marymoor Park; consistent with city's vision
- Section B – same policies – no change
- Policies went to Trails Commission in June
- Addition ideas for downtown, suggested by Park Board, have been incorporated into the downtown element – emphasizes the area of downtown having the major element of green space, parks, gathering places, important feature of the downtown element
- Facility, Maintenance and Renovation section – to ensure that it is so noted that the city is using its' existing facilities to their best capabilities through recreation programs, individual use, organized sports. Language to include, make accessible and provide for expanded use
- Allowing fee in lieu of open space requirements in downtown – Board requested more information on that subject. Very restricted area, incentive for revitalization of the downtown core. Fees would be applied for a mitigation aspect to provide an opportunity to extend the parks system to serve the community. Suggested policy by planning staff. Board needs further review, go through adoption of policies, this issue would be look at separately as a Development Guide amendment and amendment to the Comp Plan. Board needs to discuss and review this issue more. Concerns on a policy that "blankets" across the downtown area – more on a "case by case" basis. There is a need to make the downtown area more useful and more centralized and defining the urban core and where certain cases may apply. Future agenda item subject for October. The document will be wordsmithed, refined and in sync with the PRO Plan. Maps will be colored specific for certain areas and showing connectiveness of trails to parks. Cross references will be made to the PRO Plan.

Motion by Degenstein: to adopt the proposed Parks, Recreation and Arts element with designated edits

Second by: Callister

Approved: 5-0

C. Idylwood Park Programming

Hopkins reported that staff is in the process of wordsmithing the Board questions/concerns from their last meeting.

Snogross proceeded to take comments from the Board on the proposal of the Sammamish Rowing Association for programming at Idylwood Park.

- Cox stated that the steps necessary to go forth would be:
- Pre-application with the city's Technical Committee - can it be done and what requirements the city has for that proposal to move forward
- Row Club need to make a financial review after going before Tech Committee
- Several city departments are involved - Fire, Public Works, Stormwater, etc.

Kelsey stated he is interested in all potential programming, what is proposed now, what staff has in mind for future use at the park before he can further comment.

Hopkins noted that a potential support facility on site is planned in the future. The goal is to find a support facility that is consistent with the character of the site, not over-bearing, preclude or pre-empt other activities taking place at the park and also with continued dialogue with neighbors. Hopkins reiterated that all requirements needed to be successfully met. Hopkins responded that some sort of recreational facility is appropriate for Idylwood.

Callister responded with a question asking what steps needed to be taken by the Board to give the Row Club the opportunity to go before the Technical Committee. Hopkins responded that the following must happen:

- Board needs to support the concept to move forward - Approval of concept to move forward

- Endorsement by City Council – city staff and SRA need to prepare a presentation before Council
- Council conceptually approves the program along with the caveats–going to Tech Committee and other committees
- Initial pre-app meeting should be made
- Critical steps – Park Board and Council
- Development will be subject to the limitations of the park
- Council approval with an added interlocal agreement needs to be drawn up
- Maximum benefit to the community on public land use that provides for specific activities, but does not preclude the general public's expected proprietary rights of the site

Degenstein stated that he felt that the Board had a responsibility to make a decision as to whether this should go forward or not. He also felt that the Rowing Club had done an exceptional job in presentation, attendance and responding to neighborhood concerns. He supported going forward.

Kelsey noted that he was not prepared to vote not knowing the impact and ramifications on the park. Kelsey is waiting for staff feedback.

Zak commented she felt this was a great idea. Good addition and element to the park.

Callister and Stewart agreed that this would be an asset to the park.

Snodgrass commented that there should be a celebration on the usage of the park, yet not be overwhelming, and sensitive that a few months out of the year it is a community park and the remainder of the year a neighborhood park. Snodgrass is in favor of moving the concept forward, finding out information what the environmental impacts are, how the usage will affect the site.

Kelsey reiterated that the vote the Board would be taking is not intended to approve the rowing club's proposal or any other proposal at this time.

Motion by: Degenstein to approve and direct staff to go forward with the concept and report back to the Park Board.

Second by: Callister

Approved: 4 approved 1 abstain (Kelsey)

D. Senior Center Auditorium Naming Consideration

Hopkins introduced Frances Meitzer to the Board. Frances husband, Fred, former City Council member, now deceased, played an important part in securing funds for the performing arts area of the Senior Center, along with other projects. This topic, although presented to the Board at a prior meeting, was held back so that staff could do further research and report to Board members. The two-year timeframe, which will be over with by spring 2005, would allow the naming, if approved to take effect.

Motion by: Stewart to direct the Park Board to recommend to City Council the naming of the Sr. Center auditorium, consistent with the recommendation of the Sr. Center staff, in honor of Fred Meitzer.

Second by: Degenstein

Approved: 5-0

E. Trust for Public Lands (TPL) – Hopkins (Handout)

Hopkins stated that TPL would be at the September Board meeting to give a presentation on the next stage of the process – polling and coaching for setting up community support – types of questions to be asked and the desired outcome of information needed. Polling is different from the survey; it focuses on what people would be willing to vote for. Polling is an important next step in the process.

The first part of the contract is to provide an analysis and overview – potential revenue sources, viability for raising funds, debt services, etc. Funding potentials include: voter initiated bond, general obligation bond, property tax, sales tax and utility tax. The population for Redmond is expected to grow 21% to 56,000.

City general fund budget for 2003-2004 was \$104 mil; 2005-2006 less buying power – health benefits, salaries – impacts CIP – 20% or 5% of general fund plus \$800,000 from impact fees from new residents. Five million allocated to the general fund – Parks receives 20% = \$1 million.

Looking into enhancing existing facilities without building new parks out, provide maximum use of facilities to minimize maintenance costs and to handle small projects in-house. If the city does go out for a future bond,

the levy needs to be incrementally increased to whatever the size of the bond is and needs to be extended to provide a level of maintenance.

Council would like the process to move forward so they have a timeframe in which they can be in a position to back up and be knowledgeable about the process. Finalization should be in January or February 2005.

F. Park Board Tour

Board agreed to wait until new Board member is "on board", in approximately September.

Board agreed to table until September or whenever a new Board member is "on board". Snodgrass will contact Board members.

VI. New Business

A. Redmond Elementary Joint Project - Hopkins

The PTSA is in the process of working with the school district in applying for a County grant to upgrade the playground equipment at Redmond Elementary School. The PSTA has asked the City to partner with them to more competitive in the grant process. Enmities will be involved - the LWSD, County, City and PTSA. The city will contribute, pending approval, \$2,000 and three benches (\$500 for each bench), for a total of \$3,500. The LWSD will provide all site work; prep and installation of the equipment. The project provides the energy to keep the renovation of the area going.

B. August Board Meeting

The Board voted to forego the August meeting and continue their regular meeting to September.

Motion by: Kelsey to forego the August meeting and continue their regular meeting to September, 2005.

Second by: Stewart

Approved: 5-0

VII. Reports

A. CIP - Recap - What Inventory Needs Master Planning - Hopkins

A lot of park properties not developed, some plans dated and old. This year a list will be made and presented to the Board – go through an opportunity study, staff only to get thoughts and themes and public input regarding these properties. Properties include; Juel, Benaroya site (Sammamish Valley), Hartman Park, others.

B. East Lake Sammamish Park Property

Property on East Lake Sammamish Parkway owned by city – cost \$1.6 mil., All funded through bond money and King County monies. \$800,000 of that money was Bear and Evans Creek monies – city is working with the City of Sammamish to see how the property can be made available to Sammamish – caveats; everyone would be able to use it, try to recover some money to put back into the Bear and Evans Creek fund.

The Board will prioritize the list of undeveloped parks – 14. Snodgrass noted that public opinion is important before the Board makes decisions.

C. Washington Recreation and Parks Association Citizen Board Information

Snodgrass suggested that this would be a good discussion item for the next retreat for next year's submissions.

Snodgrass asked that Board members keep this information.

D. Diversity Award for RedmondLights

The City received a 2004 Diversity Award for RedmondLights.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Kelsey
Second by: Degenstein
Approved: 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

By: _____
Lori Snodgrass, Chair

Date

Redmond Park Board

June 3, 2004

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Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Sharon Sato

Next Regular Meeting

September 2, 2004

7:00 p.m.

Location: Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center